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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventor: Tsuneaki ISHIMURA Group Art Unit: 2616  
Appln. No.: 09/650,742 Examiner: J. Vent  
Filed: August 30, 2000  
For: VIDEO SWITCHER

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated December 29, 2004, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

At the outset, the Applicant submits that the office action is a premature final rejection, because the basis for the present rejections is different from that of the prior rejections and the new basis was not necessitated by an amendment of the claims. The Office Action, dated March 15, 2004, stated that the claims were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, because Applicant's disclosure does not enable a skilled artisan to understand how the disclosed bit signals are compared to